UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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DP/PROJECTS/7488

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF AFGHANISTAN

IPF:(1992-96) $70 039 000

(AFG/90/008) - Housing for Resettlement) (Supplementary Assistance)

Date of approval by the AC:1/	**26 May 1993**	
Expected duration:	**Two years**	
Proposed executing agency:	**United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS)**	
Proposed UNDP contribution:	**$1 458 100**	**Source of funds: IPF**
Previous UNDP budget:	**$2 742 400**	
Total UNDP budget:	**$4 200 500**	

Project background

Rural and urban settlements in Afghanistan have been severely affected by war over the past fourteen years. A significant part of the population has been displaced, but many are now returning to their homes. It is estimated that at least a million Afghan families will need to rebuild some form of replacement shelter as part of the process of resettlement in their areas of origin, mainly in the rural areas. There are localized shortages of materials, particularly for roofing, since the cultivation of timber and manufacture of traditional building materials has been affected by the war and the prices in rebuilding of resettlement shelter through moderately subsidized manufacturing and supply of key construction materials as well as provision of skilled labour. The above-mentioned project started in June 1991 in the provinces of Kapisa, Balkh, Jowzjan, Samangan, Parwan, Paktia and Nangahar. A joint evaluation of UNCHS activities, carried out during early 1992, strongly endorsed the project strategy and recommended an extension and geographical expansion of project activities.

At least 1.5 million refugees have returned to the country during 1992, and a further one million is expected in 1993. At the same time significant movements of internally displaced people continues. So far, resettlement has occurred either in the areas most able to support increased population, or in those closest to the frontier. Further returnees will arguably face

1/ This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

greater obstacles, as they attempt to re-occupy abandoned or marginal areas which will need significant investment in rehabilitation if long-term resettlement can be sustained. This will have a direct impact on the intended beneficiaries of this project by creating an immediate need for affordable shelter materials.

Description of project

The immediate objective of the proposed revision is to respond to shelter needs of returnees and others in areas where reconstruction is feasible. The revision incorporates a strengthened emphasis on sustainable village-based manufacturing enterprises as a means of improving materials supplies and providing local employment. An expansion of subcontracted activities is planned from existing project offices in response to growing needs for assistance in areas of Paktia, Wardak, Logar and Faryab where effective working conditions prevail. In addition, a sub-office will be established in Herat to support resettlement activities in western provinces.

As of May 1993, 32 subcontracts for a total amount of (US)$1,100,000 had been let. The additional outputs of project activities are expected (not foreseen in the original product document) to comprise the following: (a) supply of affordable materials to at least 10,000 rural and village-level urban families to re-build their own shelter; (b) establishment of at least 25 additional village-level manufacturing enterprises to produce essential construction materials; and (c) creation of up to 1000 long-term jobs for skilled workers and 3000 jobs for unskilled workers in the initial phase of production of construction materials.

Inputs

UNDP will provide additional funds for new sub-projects in the current areas of activity and for expansion of project activities in further geographical areas; increased personnel component to reflect the need for additional national staff (in response to a reduction in the number of international staff); 32 new subcontracts for support of housing and manufacturing projects in current areas of activity and for expansion into further geographical areas; construction equipment and materials; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

	$
Personnel	60 300
Subcontract	1 150 000
Training	(80 000)
Equipment	102 000
Miscellaneous	49 300
External funding (erroneously included in UNDP budget for rev. C)	176 500
Total	1 458 100

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